

Gaceta de

Puerto-Rico.



PRECIO DE SUSCRIPCION

AYUNTAMIENTOS Y CENTROS OFICIALES

\$ 24 anuales, pago por trimestre adelantado

OFICINAS: Se suscribe

SUSCRIPTORES PARTICULARES

\$ 18 anuales, pago por trimestre adelantado

Anuncios — 15 cts. línea, pagos el día de su publicación

Tipografía de Sucesión J. J. Acosta — Fortaleza 21

PERIODICO OFICIAL DEL GOBIERNO

Publicación diaria menos los lunes

Año 1900

SAN JUAN, [P. R.] VIERNES 20 DE ABRIL

Número 91

PARTE OFICIAL

General Orders, } HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT
No. 80. } OF PUERTO RICO
San Juan, April 12th, 1900.

On the recommendation of the Superior Board of Health, the following is published for the information of all concerned:

Nuisances.

I. Any object or condition which is prejudicial to public health is designated as a "Nuisance." Dead animals in streets or yards, slaughter-house effal, or other decomposing matter, and infected house, overflowing and leaky privies and water-closets, manure-pits, filthy or insecure tenement houses; filthy markets, groceries, dairies, cellars yards, alleys, or streets; defective drains, filthy stables, foul wells used by the public, open sewers in which the water stands, ponds or pools of stagnant water, are illustrations of nuisances. Soap making, bone boiling, and some other industries may be designated offensive and subject to police control, but they are not necessarily prejudicial to public health.

II. The emptying of material removed from privy vaults, and cesspools into, or their connection with, the common sewer is a nuisance, is prejudicial to public health, and is prohibited.

III. The dumping of night-soil into any river, stream, lake, or pond in Puerto Rico, is a nuisance, and is hereby prohibited.

IV. Any person maintaining upon his property a nuisance, must promptly remove or abate the same, when notified to do so by the Health Officer, Alcalde, or other proper official.

V. Reports of nuisances should be made in writing, signed by at least three persons to the Alcalde, Health Officer, or other member of the local or Superior Board of Health. The names of the signers of said report must not be given to the public, except it be so required by a Court of Justice in due process of law.

VI. It is the duty of the Health Officer, or in case this officer does not exist, then it is the duty of the Alcalde or other proper authority, to receive the reports of nuisances and make efforts to abate them, as the law or the rules and regulations of the local or Superior Board of Health may direct.

VII. Whenever a complaint is made in writing to a Board of Health, a Health Officer or Alcalde of the existence of a nuisance, the matter shall forthwith be investigated by the Health Officer, Alcalde or other proper authority, and in case he finds that the alleged nuisance is detrimental to the public health, or the cause of any special disease or mortality, he shall notify the owner, agent or lessee, of said premises, or party presumably responsible for said nuisance, in writing, of such finding, and the Board, or the Alcalde in case no Board exists, shall thereupon order and direct the abatement of the same forthwith. In the event of the failure of said owner, agent or lessee of said property, or said responsible party, to abate the nuisance, then the said Officer or Board may proceed to abate the same, and may employ all the force necessary to do so, and shall proceed by warrant to arrest and prosecute the party failing to obey said order of abatement. All the expenses attending the abatement of a nuisance shall be charged and shall be a first lien against the property where the nuisance exists.

Water-closets, privies, sinks, and cess-pools.

VIII. All privy-vaults or cess-pools that are full, or when the contents thereof shall be within two feet of the surface of the ground, or shall leak into the cisterns, wells, cellars, or basements adjacent thereto, are hereby declared nuisances, prejudicial to health,

and the owners, agents or lessees of the premises to which said privies are appurtenant, shall, upon notice, have the contents of said well entirely removed by a licensed cleaner of privies who shall use such apparatus as is adopted by the Superior Board of Health, and under Rules and Regulations established by same Board.

IX. Hereafter privy-vault must be constructed as follows: Each building situated on an unsewered street must have a vault not less than four feet in diameter and ten feet deep in the clear, lined and floored with a wall of hard brick nine inches in thickness, laid in cement mortar, and proved to be water tight.

X. Hereafter privy vaults shall not be situated within two feet of the party lines or within twenty feet of a building, when practicable, and before any privy vault shall be constructed, application shall be made and a permit issued by the local Board of Health, or when there is no such Board operative, then by the Alcalde. The owner of houses must furnish one with a privy, when water-closets cannot be installed.

XI. Hereafter privies must, at all times, be kept clean and free from bad odors, and the contents protected from flies.

XII. No privies shall exist in any room used as a bakery, public kitchen, milk depot, grocery, market house, or other public place or public room where food is prepared or sold, neither shall any privy open into nor be ventilated into such rooms.

Sewering.

XIII. Before a new system of sewerage is introduced into any city or town in Puerto Rico, a plan of this system with drawings and specification must be submitted to the Superior Board of Health at San Juan. After an examination of the plan, if the Board approves, it will so report to the Governor with a recommendation that a permit to construct same will be issued. Any change to a new system of sewerage by which the effluent is discharged into a new stream or other body of water can only be undertaken after the plan has been approved by the Superior Board of Health at San Juan, as above.

XIV. No excavations or digging of soil, drainage of lowlands, grading of streets, opening of public sewers or drains in sea-coast cities or towns, shall be permitted between the 1st of April and the 15th of November, without the approval of the Superior Board of Health. Provided, that this is not intended to interfere with the ordinary cultivation of land in farming, the burial of the dead, the digging of wells, when necessary (and there is no water system), the digging of post holes, or the ordinary excavations necessary for building purposes, or necessary repairs to existing system.

Filling ground with or removal of Filth.

XV. Filling, leveling, or raising the surface of any ground or a lot within any incorporated city or incorporated town or village in Puerto Rico, with animal or vegetable substances, filth gathered in cleaning yards or streets, waste material from mills or the removal of the surface of any ground or lot within the said cities, towns or villages, filled with such offensive matter or substance, in such a manner as to cause noisome or noxious gases to arise, are hereby declared nuisances, injurious to health.

Street cleaning.

XVI. The streets in the cities or towns of Puerto-Rico must be kept clean. Dirty streets are not only unhealthful, but are very unsightly, and give any city a bad reputation in the eyes of strangers. It is forbidden to throw filth, garbage, dead animals, or solid or liquid waste of any kind into the streets. These must be placed in boxes or other receptacles which will be emptied by the public scavengers. These

receptacles must be kept clean by those who use them. Each owner or agent or property will be held responsible for any violation of these requirements in front of his property extending so far as the middle of the street.

XVII. Each city council or, under their direction, the local Board of Health, will make proper regulations for sweeping and cleaning the streets at least three times a week and for the removal of all such sweepings. Sweepings and garbage shall not be deposited in vacant lots or along streams, but at such points as the Health Officer, or local Health Board shall direct.

XVIII. No dumping ground or refuse of any description, shall be maintained in or close to any city, town, or settlement in this Island, and it is hereby made the duty of every Alcalde to promptly abate such a nuisance, and to prevent the accumulation of refuse and garbage in such quantities as will threaten the health and lives of the people. The garbage should be burned as far as possible, and this can be done if it is spread out to dry on days when the sun shines.

XIX. Any person guilty of violation of any of the provisions of this Order shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not less than Five Dollars (\$5.00) nor more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), United States Currency, or imprisonment for not less than five (5) nor more than ninety (90) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the Court.

XX. The District Courts, instituted by General Orders, No. 114, series of 1899, from these Headquarters, shall have jurisdiction in cases arising under this Order subject to the provisions of General Orders, No. 88, series of 1899, from these Headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVIS:

WM. E. ALMY,

Acting Adjutan General.

Ordenes Generales, } CUARTEL GENERAL.
No. 80. } Departamento de Puerto-Rico.
San Juan, Abril 12, 1900.

Por remendación de la Junta Superior de Sanidad se promulga la siguiente Orden para conocimiento general:

Inmundicias.

I. Denomínase "inmundicia" todo objeto, estado ó condición que por su naturaleza redunde en perjuicio de la salubridad pública. Caen bajo la clasificación de inmundicias los animales muertos en calles ó patios; los desperdicios de mataderos y demás sustancias corruptibles; las habitaciones infectas; las letrinas que rebosan y se rezuman; los estercoleros; las casas de vecindad desaseadas ó inseguras; las plazas de mercado, pulperías, lecherías, sótanos, páños, callejones y calles en estado de desaseo; los desagües defectuosos; los pesebres llenos de estiércol; los pozos públicos cenagosos; los albañales abiertos en que se detiene el agua; los estanques ó charcas con aguas estancadas, &c. &c. Pueden calificarse como ofensivas y estar sujetas á la inspección de la policía, las fábricas de jabón, la cocción de huesos y algunas otras industrias, sin que por ello sean necesariamente consideradas como perjudiciales á la salud pública.

II. El vaciar en la cloaca maestra materias extraídas de letrinas y sumideros ó hacer que se comuniquen con ella, constituye una "inmundicia", es anti-higiénico y queda prohibido.

III. Constitúyela también el arrojar vaciamientos de letrinas en los rios, corrientes, lagos ó charcos, de Puerto-Rico, lo cual queda por la presente prohibido.

IV. Toda persona que en su finca mantuviere algún foco de "inmundicia" deberá suprimir ó remediarlo tan pronto como fuere notificado al efecto por el Oficial de Sanidad, Alcalde ó otra autoridad competente.

V. Las denuncias de "inmundicias" deberán llevar las firmas de por lo menos tres individuos y dirigirse por escrito al Alcalde, Oficial de Sanidad ó otro miembro de la Junta local ó Superior de Sanidad. Los nom-